

WELL NEWSLETTER – November 10, 2006

Coordinating Committee Elections Are Coming Up – See Below for More Details

Calendar of WELL Events

November 13: Speaker Event: David Korten, Author of “The Great Turning”

6:30PM, Willits Community Center - 111 E. Commercial St.

WELL is pleased to host an informative evening featuring David Korten author of the new bestseller “The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community.” In this book David describes how the convergence of Peak Oil, Climate Change and the impact of economic globalization has created both an incredible challenge and a unique opportunity to remake our culture. In this talk David will share his vision of how we can create “Earth Community” locally in response to this mammoth challenge. At this event we will be selling DVDs of David’s presentation in Sonoma earlier this year. The DVDs are \$15 each and were produced by Nevada City’s Yuba Gals, an independent media group very involved in localization.

November 16: The Future of Transportation in Mendocino County

6:30PM, Willits City Council Chambers - 111 E. Commercial St.

Help us assess the present and envision the best possible solutions for our community transport systems in this new era of gas and oil uncertainty. Ann Weller will moderate a panel discussion including Alan Falleri, Willits City Planner, Ellen Drell of “One Town One Vision,” Glenna Blake of the MTA, Janet Orth, an alternative fuel and vehicle proponent, and Richard Jergenson of the Mendocino County Railway Society.

November 27: WELL Plenary

6:30PM, Willits Community Center - 111 E. Commercial St

This is a special Plenary Meeting of the New WELL for Members and guests. Even if you don’t like meetings, we think you’ll find this one different. Jason Bradford and Brian Weller will debut a presentation that they will be offering before the start of future meetings to give newcomers the context for localization. The Coordinating Committee will then give an overview of the general direction and issues before us followed by a presentation from each member describing their role and responsibility they are assuming for a specific part of the Strategic Plan. We will use small group discussion to support each Working Member in finding their passion and niche as well as large group sharing for a clearer sense of our community. Please join us for a special evening as we step back into action. We need you now!

December 11 – WELL Quarterly Meeting & Coordinating Committee Elections

6:30PM – Little Lake Grange – 291 School Street

At this meeting WELL working members will elect five Coordinating Committee members to a one year term. If you are interested in running, please read the **Get Involved** section of this newsletter for more details. More details on the Quarterly meeting to follow.

Other Events

November 14 – Willits Local First Kick-Off Breakfast

The Willits Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the launch of its Willits Local First program, an ongoing campaign to educate the community in the importance of supporting local independent businesses. The Chamber is hosting a complimentary breakfast for local business owners to learn about how to participate in this campaign. The breakfast is from 8AM until 9:30AM at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Please RSVP by Thursday, November 9, 2006 by calling the Willits Chamber of Commerce at 459-7910.

November 17 – Percy Schmeiser in Ukiah

Percy Schmeiser, the Canadian farmer whose canola fields were contaminated with GMO seed, and in turn was sued by Monsanto, shares the stories of his ongoing struggle and court appeal. All proceeds and donations from attendees, sponsors, and partners go directly to his efforts. He will speak at the Mendocino Wine Company Theatre, 501 Parducci Road, Ukiah, 463.5350. Doors open 6 pm, discussion and dialog at 7 pm. \$10 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds).

November 18 - An Elegant Evening of Jazz - Ukiah

Cloud Forest Institute will celebrate its 10th Anniversary by inviting our community to An Elegant Evening of Jazz, luscious desserts and local spirit beverages. Everyone is encouraged to dress up in their finest cool weather apparel while we enjoy the warm tones produced by Paula Samonte, Will Siegel and Friends with special guest Master Vibraphone Artist, Oliver Shearer. The event will be held at the Saturday Afternoon Club, 107 South Oak in Ukiah on November 18th from 7:30pm until Midnight. \$10 donation at the door. For more information call 743-1287

December 16 – Noyo Food Forest Black Tie Boogie – Fort Bragg

All are invited to the first annual Noyo Food Forest Black Tie Boogie! This event will take place on December 16, 7pm-2am, at Portuguese Hall in Fort Bragg, featuring live music, a local foods feast, silent auction and cocktails. Noyo Food Forest is a group of people in Fort Bragg focused on cultivating a sustainable, affordable and accessible local food system by providing opportunities for education, enterprise, and community involvement. For questions please call 964-0218 or email us at: noyofoodforest@riseup.net

Of Interest

Brookside Farm Update

Just this week we have broken the sod and are planting cover crops and winter grains. Brookside Farm is seeking Founding Members to give \$1000 in return for a share of the 2007 harvest and help building the farm infrastructure. If you would like to contribute to the development of a local food system by becoming a Founding Member of Brookside Farm, please call Jason at 456-0760. Check out the Brookside Farm website at: <http://www.energyfarms.net/willits>.

HELP with Your Energy Bills

As we approach the cold winter months, many of us are concerned about the size of our energy bills. George Cotrell at REDI has developed the Home Energy Link Program (HELP), designed to assist low and moderate income households with funds, products and services

that support energy efficiency improvements. If you live in the City of Willits and want HELP, please call REDI at 459-1256.

Ann Weller Quoted In the S.F. Chronicle

Ann Weller was quoted in a recent article in the San Francisco Chronicle about efforts to address our oil-based economy. Read the article entitled "New Hippies Are Fighting To Replace Oil" here at

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/10/22/INGA9LRPDP1.DTL>

Save The Flour Mill In Ukiah

Greater Ukiah Localization (GULP) is attempting to help save and relocation the gristmill and waterwheel from Moore's Flour Mill in Ukiah, which has closed. The waterwheel needs to remove or it will be destroyed by the new owner. Look for information soon in a GULP column in the Ukiah Daily Journal by Cliff Paulin. If you can offer assistance, provide advice, or make a donation please contact Cliff Paulin at 463-0413 or cliffpaulin@hotmail.com. Please help GULP save this irreplaceable community resource.

Get Involved – Coordinating Committee Elections on December 11th

It's time once again for WELL Coordinating Committee elections. On December 11th the WELL working members will elect five Coordinating Committee members to a one year term. If you are a WELL working member and are interested in being a candidate please submit a candidate statement and either e-mail it to me or bring it to the WELL office. You can download a candidate statement form on our website:

<http://www.willitseconomiclocalization.org/CandidateStatementForm.pdf>, or you can just print your name, full contact information and a few sentences (brief!) about why you'd like to serve.

The deadline for candidate statement submissions is **Saturday, November 18**. If you want more information about what is involved in being a Coordinating Committee member, please read the Governance document and/or call the office.

Membership News

WELL now has 215 members with more people joining every day. Over the next couple of weeks the Membership Team will produce some information to help us talk succinctly about WELL as we recruit new members. We want to recognize Madge Strong for her significant efforts in recruiting new WELL members this last month. Thanks, Madge!

Big Thank You

Harvest Dance Appreciations

I want to sincerely thank all of the volunteers who made the Halloween Harvest Dance a huge success (in no particular order):

Erika Bruce, Stephanie Kroesen, Hank Strock, Melinda Clarke, Brian Weller, Marc Grail, Freddie Long, Madge Strong and Tom DiMarchi, Bill Boosinger, Richard Jergenson, Bill White, Kate Black, Helen Williams, Jason Bradford, Liam UiCearbhaill, Ron Greystar, Keith Rutledge, Kimball Dodge, Ralph Pisciotta, George Cotrell, Ree Slocum, Lucy Shido, George Cotrell, Sara O'Brien, Toni Amelung, Rachel Olivieri, and Mary Zellachild. I also want to thank the Boy's & Girl's Club of Willits for hosting activities for the children and the many local businesses that donated beverages & items for the silent auction.

I also want to thank the Little Lake Grange for agreeing to partner with WELL and REDI in hosting this event and for providing a great venue for this and other community building events.

New Computers in the REDI/WELL Office

Chapman College of Fairfield, CA has donated three Dell workstations to REDI. These computers will also directly help WELL as one of them will be used to replace an outdated Windows 98 computer that is frequently used in WELL efforts. Things will get easier in the office!

Office Note

Spring has had her baby. On November 3rd at 9:07AM she gave birth to a 7lb 14 oz girl named Sylvana Luna. Sam got his best birthday present ever as November 3rd is his birthday too. Holly Madrigal is arranging for people to bring food to Sam, Spring and Sylvana. If you are interested in helping out, please give Holly a call at 459-0447.

If you would like to be taken off this mailing list, please let me know and I will gladly oblige.

Cheers,
Suzie

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